

## REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 20th November 1897.

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		<b>ASSAM PAPERS.</b>	
		Nil.	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
<b>BENGALI.</b>		<b>CALCUTTA.</b>			
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta	20,000	13th November, 1897.	
2	"Basumat" ...	Ditto	.....	11th and 18th November, 1897.	
3	"Hitaishi" ...	Ditto	800	16th November, 1897.	
4	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto	About 4,000	12th ditto.	
5	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto	1,250	13th ditto.	
6	"Sahachar" ...	Ditto	About 500	10th ditto.	
7	"Samay" ...	Ditto	3,000	12th ditto.	
8	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	3,000	13th ditto.	
9	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto	800	15th ditto.	
10	"Sulabh Samachar" ...	Ditto	.....	13th ditto.	
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Banga Vidya Prakashika" ...	Ditto	300	16th ditto.	
2	"Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika." ...	Ditto	1,000	14th to 18th ditto.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto	1,132	11th, 12th, 15th to 18th November 1897.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	200	12th, 13th, 16th and 17th November 1897.	
5	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto	Read by 3,000	12th, 13th and 16th to 18th November 1897.	
<b>HINDI.</b>					
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Marwari Gazette" ...	Ditto	.....		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto	2,000	11th November, 1897.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto	10,000	15th ditto.	
<b>PERSIAN.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Hublul Mateen" ...	Ditto	500	15th ditto.	
<b>URDU.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Al Kunz" ...	Ditto	.....		
2	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide." ...	Ditto	310	11th ditto.	
3	"General and Gauhariassi" ...	Ditto	330	7th ditto.	
<i>Tri-weekly.</i>					
1	"Nusrat-ul-Islam" ...	Ditto	.....		
<b>BENGALI.</b>		<b>BURDWAN DIVISION.</b>			
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna	.....	14th ditto.	
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura	500	16th ditto.	
2	"Bankura Hitaishi" ...	Ditto	.....	15th ditto.	
3	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan	250	9th ditto.	
4	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura	620	7th ditto.	
5	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	1,280	12th ditto.	
<b>BENGALI.</b>		<b>PRESIDENCY DIVISION.</b>			
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Murshidabad	696	10th ditto.	
2	"Pratikar" ...	Ditto	603	12th ditto.	



No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
	<b>URIYA.</b> <i>Weekly.</i>	<b>ORISSA DIVISION.</b>			
1	"Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...	Bamra in the Central Provinces.	.....	22nd September, 1897.	This paper is said to have some circulation in the Division, but the number of subscribers could not be ascertained.
2	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	190	23rd ditto.	
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	309	23rd ditto.	
4	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	480	25th ditto.	
	<b>HINDI.</b> <i>Monthly.</i>	<b>PATNA DIVISION.</b>			
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipur ...	About 600		
1	<i>Weekly.</i> "Aryavarta" ...	Dinapur ...	1,000	13th November, 1897.	
	<b>URDU.</b> <i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ...	Bankipur ...	500	12th ditto.	
2	"Gaya Punch" ...	Gaya ...	400	15th ditto.	
3	"Tah Zeeb" ...	Patna ...	.....		
	<b>BENGALI.</b> <i>Fortnightly.</i>	<b>BHAGALPUR DIVISION.</b>			
1	"Gaur Varta" ...	Malda ...	.....	11th ditto.	
	<b>BENGALI.</b> <i>Weekly.</i>	<b>RAJSHAHI DIVISION.</b>			
1	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	243		
2	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Kakina, Rangpur ...	180	11th ditto.	This paper is not regularly published for want of type.
	<b>HINDI.</b> <i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	700		
	<b>BENGALI.</b> <i>Fortnightly.</i>	<b>DACCA DIVISION.</b>			
1	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	.....	12th ditto.	
2	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	315	14th ditto.	
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	.....	29th October, 5th and 12th November, 1897.	
2	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	900	8th November, 1897.	
3	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	2,400	14th ditto.	
4	"Sanjay" ...	Faridpur ...	.....	12th ditto.	
5	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	About 500	13th ditto.	
	<b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b> <i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500		
	<b>BENGALI.</b> <i>Fortnightly.</i>	<b>CHITTAGONG DIVISION.</b>			
1	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	.....		
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	120	3rd and 10th ditto.	
	<b>BENGALI.</b>	<b>ASSAM.</b>			
1	"Paridarshak-o-Srihattavasi"	Sylhet ...	.....		
2	"Silchar" ...	Silchar, Cachar ...	.....	15th ditto.	







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 9th November ascribes the frontier war to the "forward policy." The frontier tribes fear that the British Government intends to destroy their independence and occupy their country. The Government, on the other hand, seems to be of opinion that, in order to effectually ward off a Russian invasion of India, it is indispensably necessary to occupy the mountain passes on the north-western frontiers and establish strong military posts to guard those passes. It is, however, difficult to understand how this object can be achieved by offending the frontier tribes.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1897.

2. The *Hablul Mateen* of the 15th November says that Mr. Gladstone in his speech of the 23rd September strongly attacked the European Powers for their friendly attitude towards Musalman rulers. He observed that the revival of the Muhammadan power was due to the want of cooperation among the European Powers against Islam. Mr. Gladstone also observed that if the Christian Powers continued to be slow in annihilating the Musalman power the Musalmans would triumph over the Christians. Mr. Gladstone seems to be in his dotage or he would not have ventured to use such language towards the Musalmans. He caused the shedding of copious blood in Armenia, Crete and Greece, and there is no knowing what more shedding of blood may be brought about in future by his unfriendly attitude toward the Musalmans.

HABULU MATEEN,  
Nov. 15th, 1897.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

3. The *Barisal Hitaishi* of the 5th November says that, as the *badmashes* living within the jurisdictions of the Madaripur and Mehdiganj thanas frequently commit dacoities in Muladi and on the river near it in the Backergunge district, and as the police generally fail to bring the offenders to justice, it is desirable that a police outpost should be established in Muladi. On the 25th September last, new cloth to the value of Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,200 was taken away from a tradesman's boat on the river by dacoits, who have not yet been apprehended by the police.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,  
Nov. 5th, 1897.

4. The *Hitavadi* of the 12th November has received the following letter and enclosure from the Assam Government with reference to its statement that a cooly named Thaku Bagti had been kidnapped and was being pressed to execute a fresh agreement:—

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

No. 759-Emgn. R.  
1847

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

To—The Editor, "Hitavadi," Calcutta.

Dated Shillong, the 30th October 1897.

With reference to the article regarding the alleged fraudulent recruitment of a cooly named Thaku Bagti which appeared in your paper of the 23rd July 1897, I am directed to forward a copy of the statement made by Thaku Bagti before the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur on the 7th September 1897.

*Thaku Bagti on Solemn Affirmation.*

I came from Bankura 3 years 6 months ago. I cannot write. My father's name is Beni, who lives at Banjira village, Gangajal Ghatti thana, Bankura. My agreement will be finished next Falgun. I sent a letter to my father. The line chankidar wrote the letter for me asking for Rs 15. I wanted the Rs. 15 for myself to spend. I did not want it for passage money. When my agreement is up, I intend to take a new agreement.

(Sd.) L. J. KERSHAW,

Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur.

The 7th September 1897.



The writer cannot help suspecting that Thaku has been made to affirm as above by means of inducements or threats. The way in which he referred to his grievances in his letter to his father was so piteous that it cannot be supposed that he asked for money to spend it in the garden.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

5. A correspondent of the same paper says that a constable of the Sitakunda thana, named Tripura Charan Barua, asked for leave, hearing that his family had been killed by the fall of their house at the late earthquake. The District Superintendent of Police granted the poor constable leave without pay for seven days, although the Commissioner and the Magistrate granted after that sad calamity leave to their subordinates without any deduction of pay. This District Superintendent was fined the other day for beating a *syce*.

The District Superintendent of Police, Chittagong.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 13th, 1897.

6. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 13th November complains of *badmashi* in Koarpur, a village within the jurisdiction of the Palang thana in the Faridpur district. On the 2nd November last a number of *badmashes* entered the house of one Golak Som at dead of night and tried to forcibly carry away his daughter-in-law when she had gone out with her mother-in-law to answer a call of nature. The women raised an alarm, and the *badmashes* struck Som's wife with a *lathi*. Som came to the rescue, and was violently handled. At last some of the neighbours came to his assistance, and the assailants took to their heels. Som was very badly beaten, and lies in a precarious condition. His dying declaration has been taken, and several witnesses have been examined. Narayan Thakur, Ida and Ujir Dholi have been accused of the crime, but they are still at large.

*Badmashi* in a village in the Faridpur district.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
Nov. 14th, 1897.

7. The *Kasipur Nivasi* of the 14th November says that though under Mr. Beatson-Bell crime of all descriptions has much diminished in the Backergunge district as a whole, there are still places where *badmashi* is rampant. The residents of Rahmatpur, Chacharipasha and Pangsa, for instance, are living in constant dread of *badmashes* whose names they cannot out of fear reveal to the authorities. It is hoped that the Magistrate will take steps to ensure safety of life and property in the villages referred to.

*Badmashes* in the Backergunge district.

KASIPUR NIVASI.

8. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the prevalence of theft in Kundhar-Banaripara in the Backergunge district. The chaukidars are seldom found to do their duty, and the police has not been able to trace a single thief for some time.

Prevalence of theft in a village in the Backergunge district.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Nov. 14th, 1897.

9. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 14th November proposes that people prosecuted for such petty offences as the commission of nuisance on public streets should be tried by Honorary Magistrates. When the courts remain closed, these cases should be tried by the Magistrates at home. This will prevent the accused from being unnecessarily kept in the *hajat*, and will also save the Government the expense of feeding them during their confinement. Honorary Magistrates, however, should be appointed after a careful selection and not perfunctorily as at present.

Honorary Magistrates to try petty cases of nuisance.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 15th, 1897.

10. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 15th November speaks highly of the ability of Babu Radhika Prasad Sinha, Police Inspector of Deoghur. He has shown considerable detective ability in unravelling the mystery of the Pathrol murder and in collecting evidence sufficient for the conviction of the murderer. There are few able and experienced police officers like Mr. Sinha. To his ability he adds courtesy and honesty. It is a wonder that he has not yet been promoted to an Assistant Superintendentship. Promotion ought to quickly follow consummate ability.

The Police Inspector of Deoghur.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 16th, 1897.

11. A correspondent of the *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th November writes that the Sub-Inspector of the Sunamukhi thana in the Bankura district should be given the power of granting passes for musical procession in Sonamukhi village. It will be much more convenient if the Vice-Chairman of the Sonamukhi Municipality is

Passes for musical processions.



empowered to grant passes. The practice at present is to apply to the Inspector of Bishnupur for passes for musical procession. This puts the applicants to some unnecessary expense, as they generally send their applications in registered covers to ensure safe delivery.

12. The *Basumati* of the 18th November observes that Babu Radhika Prasad Sinha, Police Inspector of Deoghur has shown great detective ability in bringing the Pathrol murderer to justice. The Government ought to reward him for his services.

BASUMATI,  
Nov. 18th, 1897.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

13. A correspondent of the *Charu Mihir* of the 8th November complains that the Deputy Magistrate of Kishorganj is displeased with and is ill-treating those who gave evidence against him in the late enquiry. The Government would have done well to remove him to Sadar till it had arrived at a decision in regard to the charges against him. It is three months since the papers connected with the case were sent up to the Government, but its decision is not yet known.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 8th, 1897.

14. The *Sahachar* of the 10th November regrets that the correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 29th October construed the courtesy which is shown to all gentlemen by Babu Devi Prasad, Deputy Magistrate of Deoghur, into undue favour to the rich and powerful (R. N. P. for 6th November, paragraph 8). The writer knows from personal experience of Devi Babu's character that, while civil to everybody, he never allows his civility to interfere with the impartiality of his decisions as a Magistrate. In the very cases referred to by the *Hitavadi's* correspondent, Devi Babu's decisions were confirmed in appeal by the Deputy Commissioner, which proves that the Deputy Magistrate's decisions were not vitiated by what the correspondent pleases to call that officer's partiality for the rich and strong. The correspondent has evidently taken up in the quarrels which are going on between the various parties connected with the Vaidyanath temple the cause of one of them. It is hoped that the editor of the *Hitavadi* will discountenance such partisanship and will himself take the trouble of settling those quarrels by mediation.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 10th, 1897.

15. The *Hitavadi* of the 12th November complains that Mr. A. K. Roy, Subdivisional Officer of Nator is greatly displeased with Chhara Khatun, a local lady zamindar so much so that he lets slip no opportunity of harassing even her officers and tenants. Lately, two poor tenants of hers, Gobardhan Pattar and Dayaram Pattar lodged complaints with the Subdivisional Officer, one for the unlawful seizure of his cattle by a creditor, and the other for such seizure by his *jotdar*. Upon this the Subdivisional Officer, without any complaint or police report against them, required them to furnish security for keeping the peace for one year and ordered their detention in *hajat*. It is hoped that Mr. Stevens will enquire into the matter.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

16. The same paper says that further enquiries have gone to confirm its former report that Chhedi Misra, an officer of the Mohant of Vaidyanath really pushed some pilgrims and thereby provoked an affray with certain *pandas*. A correspondent says that this Chhedi Misra has been criminally prosecuted 14 times and fined on several of these occasions.

HITAVADI

17. A correspondent of the *Samay* of the 12th November complains that the rules regarding the transfer of judicial officers are in many cases honoured more in the breach than in the observance. Strange to say, these

SAMAY,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

rules are allowed to remain in abeyance specially in the case of those officers who manage to become unpopular. The writer cites the names of three Deputy Magistrates who are serving in one and the same place for a long time. They are Mr. C. N. Banerji, Deputy Magistrate of Howrah, Mr. Abdul Kader, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, and Babu Syamadhav Rai, Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah. Messrs C. N. Banerji and Abdul Kader are most unpopular. The



latter has married a European lady and is thoroughly anglicised. The only qualification of Babu Syamadhav Rai is that he comes of the Krishnagar Raj family and is on very good terms with the European community whom he knows how to keep in humour.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 13th, 1897.

18. The *Sanjivani* of the 13th November is surprised to learn that the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court is going to sit with Mr. Justice Parsons and Mr. Justice Ranade in the hearing of the *Pratod* appeal. Mr. Justice Parsons and Mr. Justice Ranade are hearing criminal appeals. Why has the Chief Justice joined them in this particular case? It is impossible to solve this mystery.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 16th, 1897.

19. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th November speaks highly of the services rendered by Babu Jnan Sankar Sen, Deputy Magistrate in connection with famine relief in the Gangajalghati thana in the Bankura district.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 17th, 1897.

20 Referring to the acquittal of Charles Meade, who was committed to the Sessions of the Allahabad High Court, on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder of one Hardwar Singh, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 17th November observes that, in his charge to the jury the Judge most impartially summed up the case. As regards the identification of the accused, His Lordship held that evidence on that point was conclusive, but he observed that the jury were not bound by his opinion on a point of fact. The prosecution, further observed His Lordship, did not fully rely on their witnesses, for if they had done, they would have certainly charged the accused with murder and not with culpable homicide. It is thus quite clear that if the jury had convicted the accused of culpable homicide, the Judge would have been glad to accept that verdict. But they acquitted the prisoner. Let the reader judge whether the jury were as impartial in their verdict as the Judge was in his charge to them.

It appears from the evidence in the case that four soldiers went out a-hunting without a pass. There is no doubt that one of them accidentally fired a shot at one Gopal, and that Hardwar Singh died from a shot fired by another. The case is a serious one, and the verdict of the jury in the case will give the Government as well as the people cause for anxiety.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 18th, 1897.

21. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 18th November writes as follows:—

The Joint-Magistrate of Serampore.

The new Joint-Magistrate of Serampore resides in the court building, and it may not be at all inconvenient for him to keep his office open whole day and night. It is, however, a great hardship to the poor clerks to work at a stretch from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. The Magistrate should, of course, look after the transaction of office business, but he should also look after the health of his subordinates. Economy, moreover, is good; but even economy may be carried too far. It is complained that the Magistrate is lighting his office with kerosine lamps worth one pice each. If this is true, even this small expense is a waste of public money. For the office could be lighted with glow-worms as well. The Magistrate ought to put a stop to his vagaries.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

(c)—Jails.

22. The editor of the *Hitavadi* continues the narrative of his jail experiences in his issue of the 12th November:—

The jail experiences of the editor of the *Hitavadi*.

We have shown before how impossible it is for a Hindu to have his meals in jail in a way which will not affect his caste. When the decision of the question rests with a durwan, it should be easy to imagine what such decision is likely to be. So much for caste matters. The food has other inconvenient features about it. It is so badly cooked that it is quite unpalatable. Rice given to the prisoners is not of the same quality with the specimen which is shown. The authorities are not likely to know how rice is tampered with by many persons and how its quantity is increased in the godown. The accounts kept of it in books are so confused that an outsider cannot easily detect any fraud.

The worthy visitor of the jail, Maulvi Ahmed, once recorded the following remarks:—

“The rice for the native prisoners appeared to be inferior to what I saw last.”



In reply to this the Superintendent wrote as follows:—"The rice is from the same stock as was in use when the official visitor last visited the jail." (page 61.)

The Maulvi pronounced the rice to be of an inferior quality, but the Superintendent maintained that it belonged to the same stock and the complaint came to nothing. Indeed, it is not easy to understand how goods can be tampered with in the godown in a place which a person cannot get into or get out from without having his name registered at the gate. We shall try to explain the matter to the authorities when an opportunity presents itself. This much only can we say for the present that the sufferings of the prisoners knew no bounds so long as Burma rice was used. Of the grains of that rice parts used to be quite dissolved, while parts used to remain quite hard. The Medical Officer observed as follows on the point in May last:—

"Burmese rice of good quality is issued, but is not cooked evenly."

Seeing the rice so bad, the Medical Officer suggested on the 1st June last that Burmese cooks should be employed. But the Superintendent rejected the suggestion from caste considerations.

There are other defects in the jail ration. The beef supplied to Musalman prisoners is much lower in price than that supplied to European prisoners. The beef given to natives is therefore of a very inferior quality. This will appear from the accounts for any month whatever as well as from the agreement with the contractors. Maulvi Ahmed remarked as follows on the 13th March last:—

"I am sorry to learn that a Hindu contractor supplies meat. For the supply of meat a Muhammadan butcher ought to have the contract. What does a Hindu understand of beef?"

The Maulvi has found fault with the Hindu contractor because he is not aware of the true state of things. He would have known how matters really stand if he had been aware of the fact that there is provision for the supply of an inferior quality of beef to Musalman prisoners.

It will be evident from the description of the quality and cooking of the food given above, that I was not guilty of any gross exaggeration in pronouncing the ration "as unfit even for dogs."

Alas! how many persons steal the ration provided by the Jail Code! How many persons have their bellies filled with the flour, fish and oil intended for prisoners! Who will explain the mystery that in spite of this the prisoners get ration as provided by the Code and the quantity of goods in the godown increases of itself?

My letter was sent on the 9th February. A letter for me came on the 10th, but it was not delivered to me, as I was not entitled to get it then. Indeed, it was not delivered to me even when I came out of jail.

I was to be weighed on the 14th February. Two prisoners weighed me and wrote as follows on my ticket:—

"169 lbs. To Medical Officer for losing 5lbs. of flesh and Civil Hospital Assistant for reweighment."

That day my pleader and attorney friends came to see me about Mr. Shirreff's case. It was settled that they would conduct the case in the way which they would consider best after a consultation with my other friends. I gave them distinctly to understand that it was better that the case should go on than that it should be compromised, but added in the end that it must be compromised if the witnesses had got frightened at my imprisonment. It was a matter of great regret to me that I could not, owing to my difficulties at the time, arrange for my defence, and had to depend upon others for everything.

It was ascertained that I was losing flesh, but I was not sent to the Medical Officer. My days passed away in this way, and I went on seeing and hearing everything that was to be seen and heard in the jail.

On the 22nd the Superintendent granted me permission to apply for the favour of being reckoned as a first-class misdemeanant. On the 23rd my application was approved by the authorities and sent to its destination. I shall now acquaint the reader with the classification of prisoners.



Prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment for an offence not heinous may, at the discretion of the authorities, be reckoned as first-class misdemeanants under section 777 of the Jail Code. Separate arrangements are made for the food and lodging of such a prisoner. I have not up to this time seen a prisoner of this class.

Other prisoners who are sentenced to simple imprisonment come next, and I have already written about them. Every native prisoner sentenced to imprisonment with labour has first to wear an armless jacket, short drawers, a cap and a collar. These are ordinary prisoners.

In this country people are sentenced to imprisonment with labour for various reasons. But no distinction is observed between one such prisoner and another in the jail. Every such prisoner has to wear these drawers out at knees, armless jackets and a collar for attaching the ticket to, and has to go without shoes. Just fancy that even the pious Bal Gangadhar Tilak has had to wear such a dress. But the *feringhi badmash* who has been imprisoned ten times for theft can wear shoes, stockings and pantaloons. If a prisoner can pass several months in jail with the approbation of the authorities, he is appointed a watch. These watches can wear jackets with arms, can write letters and see visitors every two months, and can cut off the collar and live comfortably. They wear a blue ribbon on the right arm of their jacket. They have to keep watch at night as occasion arises. When on watch they have to keep themselves informed about the movements of other prisoners and to see how many are sleeping in a room and whether their number is all right. If everything is right, they have to report to the jail officers "all right, salaam." The officers immediately above them are called convict overseers or mates. They can wear trousers, a coat with arms and buttons besides the ordinary jacket, and a badge with number on their waist. Their cap is of a different sort, and they wear sandals consisting of a thick sole with leather thongs at the toe and in the middle, by means of which they are kept on the feet. They have to watch over a large number of prisoners and watches. No prisoner is appointed an overseer till he has served half his term. The highest class of convict officers are called convict warders. They wear a blue turban, can cook their food separately, and get a pay of four annas per month. They can also smoke tobacco outside the jail. We have here given a short general description of prisoners of all classes.

(d)--Education.

SANSODHINI,  
Nov. 3rd, 1897.

23. The *Sansodhini* of the 3rd November says that as the boys of Patia and other villages which have suffered from the late cyclone are not prepared for the primary examinations to be held on the 16th December, those examinations should be postponed.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

24. The *Hitavadi* of the 12th November writes as follows:—

The *Smriti* chair in the Calcutta Sanskrit College.

The Sanskrit College is now ruined. A nameless Pandit named Pramatha Nath Tarkabhushan has been appointed in the place of Mahamahopadhyaya Chandra Kanta Tarkalankar. We are not sorry that fortune is propitious to Tarkabhushan. What grieves us is that the Sanskrit College is going to be a cremation ground and the sporting place of Pramathas (ghosts). It is impossible to convey an idea of the astonishment that has been excited in circles of Sanskritists by the intelligence of this appointment. People could not have been more surprised if a crow had occupied the seat of the eagle, if a cat had occupied the place of a lion, or if a glow-worm had occupied the position of the moon. We should not have been so sorry if the Sanskrit College had been abolished. We are sorry to see it maimed and mutilated in this way by its own traitorous children who are demons in human shape. The Principal of the College, Babu Nilmani Mukharji is mainly responsible for this appointment. A notice was at first issued of the holding of a competitive examination for the filling up of the vacancy, but it was subsequently notified that it had been decided for special reasons not to hold such an examination. The public will not be satisfied so long as they do not know what that special reason is.



25. The *Bangavasi* of the 18th November approves of the appointment of Pandit Pramathanath Tarkabhusan to the Smriti chair in the Sanskrit College in the place of Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Chandra Kanta Tarkalankar.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 18th, 1897.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

26. The *Sansodhini* of the 3rd November observes that the late cyclone has materially affected the sanitation of the Chittagong district and that steps should be taken to improve it. All the tanks, ponds and water channels should be cleared, and at least two tanks should be reserved for drinking purposes in every village. The District Board should bear the expenses of the cleansing operations. The tanks and ponds are not likely to be speedily cleared if the task is left to the zamindars and the panchayats alone. There are people who are not in a position to clear their tanks. Let the District Board be up and doing and let the cleansing operations be carried on quickly by overseers with hired labourers from the towns.

SANSODHINI,  
Nov. 3rd, 1897.

27. The *Som Prakash* of the 15th November complains that the revised assessment of houses has had the effect of unreasonably enhancing the municipal rates. The poor house-owners are helpless and are compelled to pay the enhanced rates, for it is troublesome and expensive to successfully fight against the Municipality and get the rates reduced.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 15th, 1897.

A recent appointment in the Calcutta Municipality calls for notice. The Chairman has appointed a Superintendent for the collection of arrear rates on a salary of Rs. 200 a month and a monthly allowance of Rs. 60. Babu Lalit Mohan Mitra, M.A., License Inspector of the Municipality was one of the candidates. But his claim was ignored, and a Eurasian who has read up to the F. A. standard of the Calcutta University and has no municipal experience has been appointed to the post.

(g)—*Railways and communications including Canals and Irrigation.*

28. The *Hitaishi* of the 16th November says that the succession of accidents on the Bengal Central Railway was due entirely to the fault of the Traffic Manager who has removed old and experienced drivers and employed in their place boys who acted as firemen. It is strange that Government has not as yet felt it necessary to interfere in the present management of the line. It is its duty to see that the public can travel not only speedily but safely. An enquiry at least into the working of the line under the new management is earnestly solicited, as there is a panic in the public mind in regard to it. The absence of a telegraphic communication between Ranaghat and Bongong, a length of 22 miles, is a source of great inconvenience.

HITAISHI,  
Nov. 16th, 1897.

(h)—*General.*

29. The *Hitavadi* of the 12th November writes as follows:—  
The Poona murderer is being tried. No one has been able to prove that the Natu brothers were anyway implicated in the murders. It is not therefore creditable to the authorities that their release is not even being spoken of. All men, women and children in India will say that the Regulations for the imprisonment of persons without trial should be expunged from the statute book and the innocent Natu brothers should be released. It is as desirable that no person should be imprisoned without trial as that the guilty should be punished. Every one in England has this right of a fair trial before imprisonment, but almost everywhere in India the people are without this precious right in consequence of the dreadful "Regulations." Almost everywhere in India the authorities can easily imprison persons without trying them, without even making a mention of their offence. We desire the repeal of these regulations. Why should not English rulers be compared with the Burmese and the Zulus if Indians are not to obtain even this ordinary privilege even after so many years of British rule?

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.



The Secretary of State has declared in Parliament that various disorders will take place in the administration if Government does not possess the right of imprisoning people in this way on political grounds, and that Government does not exercise this right except in proper cases. Though unable to appreciate this crooked policy, we will grant for argument's sake that the Secretary of State is right, and that it is necessary that Government should possess such a right as the one mentioned by him. But in order to have such a right, it is not necessary to retain such dreadful and far-reaching Regulations on the statute book.

If we look at the Irish Code, we shall see that the Government there has reserved to itself such a right, but it has not thought it expedient to have on the statute book such dreadful regulations as those in force in India. It has not been thought necessary to have such dreadful regulations even where turbulent Fenians and rebels are constantly breaking the peace by the use of arms, and where the disturbances created by dynamiters and assassins are again and again making the officials uneasy. Why should these dreadful Regulations then be kept for inoffensive and peace-loving Indians? When the Irish Government feels it necessary to imprison a person without a trial, it has to obtain the permission of the Cabinet and issue a proclamation depriving that person of the right of *Habeas Corpus*. The right of *Habeas Corpus* exists only in the Presidency towns of this country. Proclamation cannot therefore be issued here as in Ireland. In order that such proclamations may be issued, the entire Indian population must first be vested with the right of *Habeas Corpus*. But we cannot expect that Government will easily agree to increase the rights of the people at a time when it is engaged in curtailing them. We do not therefore expect that Government will first confer upon us the right of *Habeas Corpus* possessed by the Irish people and then issue proclamations depriving particular individuals of that right. But we will show another way in which Government can reserve to itself the right.

Suppose, it is provided that Government will be able, if necessary, to bring the people of any particular locality under the operation of such a Regulation. In that case Government's right will not be affected, and at the same time the entire population will be rid of their present alarm and uneasiness. Government shall be bound to declare the period and the locality during and within which it means to exercise the power, and shall not be able to arrest suddenly anybody and everybody anywhere and everywhere. People will then understand that disturbances prevail in that particular locality, and if its residents do not keep quiet for some years, Government will be able to imprison anybody it pleases. The people will not feel secure unless the Regulations are so amended.

The right of imprisoning without trial is so dreadful, so mischievous and so detestable, that no civilised Government should desire to exercise it. If for some deep and unintelligible political reasons it is necessary for Government to reserve to itself such a right, let Government reserve it with such limitations as we have proposed above, and we shall perforce be content. If, on the contrary, Government goes on oppressing the people with the help of the Bengal, Madras and Bombay Regulations referred to above, neither will the dissatisfaction of the people be removed nor will Government's glory be increased. If the time at which and the objects for which those Regulations were passed are considered, it will be evident that times being now altered Government can suffer no harm from the repeal of those Regulations.

We therefore entreat Government with joined hands to enhance the glory of British rule, to remove the uneasiness of the Indian people by amending those Regulations which are blots upon liberal policy, and to keep British glory unimpaired by placing us on the same level with the other subjects of Queen Victoria.

30. The same paper complains that claims of competent natives are overlooked in favour of less competent Europeans or Eurasians in making appointments in the public service. The writer cites two instances in point.

Mr. Clarke, Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Jails.

The first is the appointment of a European as Municipal Secretary of Patna in preference to Mr. P. C. Mukharji, and the second, the appointment of Mr. Clarke, a *sub. pro tem.* Deputy Magistrate, as Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Jails, Bengal, in disregard of the superior claims of Babu Saradaprasad Sen, an old Assistant in that office, who has several times acted as Personal Assistant with great credit to himself. The new Personal



Assistant has already made his authority felt in the office. He has fixed the hour of attendance at 10-30 A.M. instead of 10-45 as formerly, and fines a clerk 4 annas if he is only a minute behind that time. The other day a record-supplier on a pay of Rs. 15 was fined Re. 1 for coming a little late. There is no hour fixed for the closing of the office, and it now closes sometimes at 6 P.M. and sometimes at 6-30 P.M. A clerk, Girindranath Mukharji, could not attend office for four days on account of the illness of his father who died of it. He could not come to office and applied for leave from home. Mr. Clarke has rejected his prayer and fined him four days' pay.

31. The same paper learns from a correspondent that the "foresters" of the Sunderbuns exact bribes from the poor woodcutters who have to sell their domestic utensils to find money to gratify them.

Illegal exactions by forest officers in the Sunderbuns.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

32. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* of the 13th November praises Mr. Cotton for personally visiting the native quarter of Shillong town where the residents are repairing their houses damaged by the earthquake, and for enquiring of everybody he met about the people's health and comfort. If every ruler took similar trouble to inform himself of the condition of the people and acted accordingly, the comfort and happiness of the people would be much increased.

Mr. Cotton.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 13th, 1897.

33. A writer in the *Sanjivani* of the 13th November, speaking from his own experience, complains of the existing hospital and inspection arrangements in the Khana Junction Plague Hospital. The inspection of passengers is capricious. European passengers are, as a rule, let off scotfree, while their native attendants, though healthy, are detained. The Government ought to see that no such unjust distinction is observed. Terrible as is the epidemic, there is, of course, no other alternative than to invest the inspecting officers with full powers and fullest liberty. But the Government ought to keep a strict watch over them, and see that they do not misuse their unlimited powers. The huts which at present do duty for hospital wards are not fit for human habitation. They are damp and unhealthy, and even healthy persons who are confined within them are sure to fall ill. At present the passengers are, during inspection, carefully examined as to whether they have any money in their possession. Those alone that are found to be without money, are paid 3 annas per day as a fooding allowance. The Khana shop-keepers, however, charge the hospital inmates exorbitantly for their commodities, and no one can get two meals a day at less than five annas. The Government ought to see that the inmates of the hospital do not suffer from want of proper nourishment.

The Plague Hospital at Khana Junction.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 13th, 1897.

34. The *Bangavasi* of the 13th November is glad to understand that Babu Prafulla Chandra Banerji has been promoted to the Deputy Postmaster-Generalship of East Bengal. Prafulla Babu is an able and experienced man, and his promotion has given universal satisfaction.

The promotion of Babu Prafulla Chandra Banerji.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 13th, 1897.

35. The same paper writes as follows:—

The Plague Hospital at Khana Junction.

We have received many letters complaining of the arrangements in the plague hospital at Khana Junction. The arrangements there for cooking, sleeping and eating are quite unfit for gentlemen. Thieves and dacoits live far more comfortably in Indian jails. The plague hospital has for its object the prevention and cure of disease, but its arrangements are such that they are sure to impair the health of even the most healthy. The hospital wards ought to be made fit for human habitation. They are at present not fit abodes even for cattle. We have repeatedly drawn the notice of the high officials to the unsatisfactory state of things in the Khana Junction Plague Hospital, and they also have repeatedly assured us of better arrangements. But their assurance remains still unfulfilled. The screens intended for female passengers are rarely used on the ground that they are not called for. It is the native passengers and the native passengers alone that are strictly and minutely inspected; the first and second class passengers have to experience no inconvenience at all. Mr. Fernandez of the office of Thacker Spink & Co., writes a letter to the *Amrita Basar Patrika*, complaining of the arrangements in the plague hospital at Khana Junction. Mr. Fernandez has dared to

BANGAVASI.



complain because he is a Christian, a *sahib*. Hindustanis and Marwaris who are badly treated suffer in silence and complain not. We know many things against the present management of the Khana Plague Hospital, but we have no judicial evidence in our favour, and dare not complain. It is, moreover, no use complaining when the Government seems to be indifferent. We know how to suffer, we have suffered long, and we shall suffer for evermore. We shall suffer and bless the benign Government.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 15th, 1897.

36. The *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 15th November says that when the Government did not hesitate to put a stop to the Hindu and Musalman pilgrimages on account of the plague in the face of a strong protest by both communities, it is not likely that it will listen to the complaint of the Congressmen against the proposal to stop the approaching Congress meeting. The Congressmen are strange people. They see that plague and famine are desolating India, and that the Government which is responsible for the safety of the country, is trying its best to successfully cope with the calamities. Yet they will not give up their determination to hold the Congress meeting. The Congress papers say that the officials who are anxious to see the Congress break up, have this year made the plague a capital pretext for the stopping of the Congress meeting. The Congress papers do not seem to be right. The officials are a powerful body, and if they had the dissolution of the Congress really at heart, they would have found means to make this year's meeting of the Congress a failure without directly putting a stop to it. When the Government is advising the Congress leaders to stop their sitting this year for the good of the country, they ought to abide by the decision.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 16th, 1897.

37. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 16th November has the following:—

The union of judicial and executive functions.

The union of judicial and executive functions in one and the same person is a strange arrangement in India, an arrangement which obtains in no other part of the British dominion. Indians of experience and ability have all along protested against this defective and objectionable system, and English jurists and lawyers of eminence have not failed to condemn it. Sir Raymond West has lately written strongly against the system and has pointed out how the judicial and executive functions can be separated with the least possible expense and without impairing the efficiency of the administration. But the Government does not appear to be at all willing to reform the existing system. The more is the present system being found fault with and the stronger is the objection against it, the greater seems to be the effort on the part of the authorities to increase its rigour. While Sir Raymond West and others are advocating the separation of the executive and judicial functions, the increase of the independence of the judiciary and the widening of the scope of the powers of the High Courts, the Government with the help of Sir Henry Prinsep is going to amend the Criminal Procedure Code in a way which is sure to bring the Subordinate Magistrates under the complete sway of the District Magistrates and to cripple the efficiency and independence of the High Courts. There is thus going on a struggle between judicial independence and executive absolutism—a struggle in which the former is sure to be worsted by the latter. The Criminal Procedure Bill proposes to amend the existing law on the subject in a thorough-going manner. If the Bill is passed, it will increase the chances of innocent people being punished. It proposes to increase the powers of the Magistrate, to restrict the accused's right of cross-examination, to curtail the powers of the High Court, to bind down the courts with hard-and-fast rules. The motive of the Government is unquestionably honest, but its reasoning is at fault. In its opinion, the system which is well suited to European countries is not suited to India. It thinks that the curtailment of the powers of the executive will impair the efficiency of the administration. The rigour of the system is being consequently enhanced, and our cry for the separation of the judicial and executive functions is no better than a cry in the wilderness.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

38. The Lieutenant-Governor, observes the same paper, has issued new plague regulations. By virtue of these regulations segregation of patients in plague hospitals is made compulsory. The Lieutenant-Governor was not willing to prescribe such



stringent regulations, but he has thought it advisable to yield to expert opinion. It is now useless to protest against this regulation, and after the late experiences no one is likely to protest strongly against it. May God save Bengal from an outbreak of plague! But why have the people of affected tracts been allowed to migrate to other parts of the country? A number of Parsis, it is said, alighted at Madhupur and thus avoided plague inspection. Why should such things occur? Plague may be imported to Bengal in this way. It is, moreover, alleged that European railway passengers have not to submit themselves to a strict and searching plague inspection. The posting of cordons round affected towns and villages would have minimised the chances of the spread of the epidemic. A cordon has been posted round a town in Scinde and something like it was posted round Kankhal. Bombay and Poona ought also to have been surrounded by cordons. Dislocation of commerce is no doubt a great calamity, but the plague is a greater.

39. The *Hitaishi* of the 16th November says that the manner in which Mr. Garrett, Magistrate of Nadia, laboured for the relief of distress in his district charmed everybody. He repeatedly said that so long as he was in charge of the district he would not allow a single man, woman or child to die of starvation. He kept his word, notwithstanding the frowns and displeasure of the authorities at the expense. But, alas! there is one such District Officer in a million in this country. The people bless Mr. Garrett now that he is going on leave.

40. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 17th November says that the new plague regulations framed for Calcutta are more rigorous than those which were framed last year. Dr. Lowson's observations were limited to Bombay, and what holds good for Bombay may not be true of Calcutta. House segregation may have failed in the western city, but how can Dr. Lowson's experience of Bombay alone enable him to say that the measure will fail also in Calcutta? That the plague has not yet been stamped out in Bombay is due not only to the fault of the residents but also to the fault of the officers who were employed in checking it. The Medical Association of Native Doctors in Calcutta consider house segregation efficacious enough to check the spread of the disease, and their opinion should carry weight with everybody.

41. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 18th November advises the Government to get a Bengali translation of the plague regulations published in the *Bengali Gazette*. Copies of the translation should also be sent to the vernacular papers for publication, so that the masses who do not understand English, may become acquainted with the regulations. The writer also requests the Government to regularly and punctually supply the vernacular papers along with the Anglo-Indian papers with official information.

42. A correspondent of the *Basumati* of the 18th November complains against the Majida post office in the Burdwan district. Letters, &c., are not regularly and punctually delivered.

43. A correspondent of the same paper complains of irregular and late postal delivery in Kaikala, a village within the jurisdiction of the Haripal post office. The postal peon is not to blame, for he has to serve about 16 or 17 villages. A post office is badly wanted in Kaikala.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

44. The *Chinsura Var'avaha* of the 7th November approves of the proposal to nominate Maharaj-Kumar Pratyod Kumar Tagore to a seat in the Bengal Legislative Council. The Maharaj Kumar has been for the last few years taking great interest in all public questions, and has been very ably and efficiently managing the Maharaja's zamindari. His nomination to a seat in the Bengal Legislative Council will be a gain to the Government and the people alike.

HITAISHI,  
Nov. 16th, 1897.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 17th, 1897.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 18th, 1897.

BASUMATI,  
Nov. 18th, 1897.

BASUMATI.

CHINSURA  
VARTAVAHA,  
Nov. 7th, 1897.



MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 13th, 1897.

45. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* of the 13th November says that the Government is quite mistaken in thinking that any interference on its part with the management of *wakf* property to prevent its waste will be an interference with the Musalman religion. As a matter of fact, it is an imperative duty of the Government to protect the interests of the public in such property, and it will be answerable to God if it does not fulfil it. The Government is always anxious to preserve the memory of the dead and quite approves of bequests for religious and charitable purposes. But unfortunately, it will not see that large *wakf* properties intended for such purposes and for the benefit of the public are being wasted and misappropriated by their *matwallis*. That Government's interference with the management of *wakf* property will not be interpreted as interference with religion and that such interference will do immense good, is proved by the case of the Mohsin Fund which is administered by the Government. Every *wakf* estate in the country can be made to yield as much good to the Musalman public as the Mohsin Fund is doing, if in the case of every such estate Government keeps an eye on the *matwallis*. The number of small *wakf* estates in Bengal is so large, that if they were administered according to the wishes of the donors, the Musalman public of the province would require little help from anybody for their religious or secular education.

PALLIVASI,  
Nov. 14th, 1897.

46. In the opinion of the *Pallivasi* of the 14th November, the Religious Endowments Bill if passed into law, will cause great hardship and inconvenience to the public. Act XX of 1863 which is still in force is almost a dead letter. The management of religious endowments has so long been conducted on the lines of ancient customs. The present arrangement and order of things will be sadly upset if the Bill is passed. People will be launched on ruinous litigation in determining whether a particular endowment is private or public. The *seva*, i.e., the worship of gods will be neglected and religious sentiment will be sacrificed on the altar of scientific fads. The Deputy Collector will take the place of the Mahanta Maharaj, and prayer will take the place of *puja*. The Bill may be passed as some of the influential native gentlemen are trying their best to get it passed. But should the calamity overtake us let one thing be done; let the distinction between a public and a private endowment be clearly defined. If the Government likes to consult Hindu opinion on the question, let it consult the *pandits* of Nadia, Bhatpara, Krishnagar, Bikrampur and Bakhla. Hindu public opinion, let the Government be assured, is decidedly against the Bill.

GENERAL AND  
GAUHARIASFI,  
Nov. 7th, 1897.

47. The *General and Gauhariasfi* of the 7th November says that two seats of Additional Members are vacant in the Viceregal Council. Of the two Musalman Members, one's term of office has expired. In the words of Lord Lansdowne there ought to be two Musalman Members in the Viceregal Council. It is for Lord Elgin to judge whether one Musalman Member is sufficient for the purpose of representing eight crores of Indian Musalmans, while the Hindus have six members to represent them. If His Lordship deems it proper to offer one of the vacant seats to a Musalman, the writer would pray him to select Nawab Syud Ameer Hossain, C.I.E., for the honour.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 15th, 1897.

48. The *Som Prakash* of the 15th November does not approve of the proposed nomination of Maharaj Kumar Pratyod Kumar Tagore to a seat in the Bengal Legislative Council. The Maharaj Kumar is no doubt courteous and full of humility, but he has very little political experience. In Calcutta he is known as the son of Maharaja Jotindra Mohan Tagore, but is he at all known to the Indian public as a wise and experienced politician or a learned and great speaker? One cannot easily believe that the Government has really proposed to nominate him to a seat in the Legislative Council. Is there no one in the country better fitted for the honour?



## V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

49. The *Sansodhini* of the 10th November complains of the prevailing distress in the Chittagong district. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless and destitute.

SANSODHINI,  
Nov. 10th, 1897.

Chittagong after the cyclone. Even the women have not a rag to cover their bodies. The poor infants all naked are shivering in cold. Cloths and warm clothes are badly wanted. Subscriptions are pouring in from the kind-hearted. A Bombay merchant has sent Rs. 300 to the Magistrate. The subscriptions now amount to no less than Rs. 30,000. The people, however, are not getting adequate and timely help. Aid is coming in in dribblets. The Bengali officials who have been entrusted with the task of inspecting the villages and relieving the distressed people are not properly discharging their duty. They do not take the trouble to personally go about the village and their work is being perfunctorily done. The European officials, however, are doing yeoman's service to the distressed people. Mr. Dixon, for instance, though a Civilian, is working barefooted with the coolies in extricating dead bodies and getting them interred. Let this glorious example be followed by the Bengali officials.

50. The *Faridpur Hitaishini* of the 12th November says that in a large area about Sriramdia within the jurisdiction of the Ainpur thana in the Faridpur district there has been a total failure of both the *aus* and *aman* crops, and the people are suffering from severe scarcity. In Sriramdia the following persons are suffering greatly from want :—

FARIDPUR  
HITAISHINI.  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

1. Dina Nath Sikdar, with wife and three children.
2. Kedar Nath Sil and Khudiram Sil, aged seven and nine, respectively, with an old grandmother aged sixty.
3. Shaikh Madan, with wife and seven children.
4. Gopal Sil, a lame man, with two brothers, a sister and a wife, is literally starving.
5. Dhatu Shaikh, a lame man, with a wife and a sister.

The Musalmans of the place who will never drink even water from the hand of a Hindu, are eating cooked rice given away by Hindus. Government will be able to learn the real state of things if it employs Babu Govinda Chandra Guha of the village to make an enquiry.

51. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 12th November complains that the major portion of the crops have been destroyed by the storm at Rosangi and adjacent places in the Chittagong district. Rice is selling at places at 5 seers per rupee. The stench from the carcasses of animals killed by the storm is insufferable. The tanks have become very foul. The police should take steps to clear the villages.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 12th, 1897.

## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

52. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 11th November says that Sir William Hunter has wrongly pointed out Indian University education as being at the root of the anti-British feelings of the educated Indians. In his opinion some of the text-books read in Indian schools and Colleges and also books which are awarded to the students as prizes contain seditious matter. Sir William does not seem to be aware that most of the text-books now in use in Indian schools and colleges are written by Europeans, and that the prize books are absolutely free from seditious writings. It is true that books published by the Christian Missionaries deal with subjects which are calculated to wound the religious susceptibilities of the Indians and thereby to create an anti-Christian feeling in the minds of their readers. Sir William's observations, taken in the sense in which they are likely to be taken from the manner of their statement, are not at all justifiable. But if he means to say that the natives of India ought not to have been given the benefit of English education, the observations will bear an intelligible meaning. The Indian students, 99 per cent. of whom read English simply with the view of qualifying themselves for posts in the public service, are likely to take to political agitation when they fail to secure any such post. Sir William, therefore, ought to have

DARUSSALTANAT  
AND URDU GUIDO,  
Nov. 11th, 1897.



requested the Government of India to give the people a technical education instead of a purely literary one as at present. Great stress is laid by Sir William on the fact that the native members of the Senates of the Indian Universities purposely prescribe books for schools and colleges which contrast the present misery of India with her ancient prosperity. The writer cannot say how far Sir William Hunter is correct in this statement. But it can be said in repudiation of it that the history of ancient India is, as it must necessarily be, full of descriptions of bloodshed, murder and lawlessness. In former days bribery was a common affair, and death was the only relief that came to the famine-stricken. But God Almighty has been so pleased as to send the British Government to India. Life and property are safe under that Government. The Indian people are living a comfortable life. In short, modern India knows nothing of that misery which was the commonest lot of the Indians of old.

## URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Sept. 22nd, 1897.

53. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 22nd September complains that the condition of the Municipal roads in Balasore is generally very bad, and that the road passing from Permitghat to Purna Balasore is in such a dangerous condition that accidents are frequent.

UTKALDIPKA,  
Sept. 25th, 1897.

54. The *Utkaldipika* of the 25th September is glad to notice that the Raja of Mayurbhunj has subscribed five hundred rupees towards a fund that is being created at Cuttack for the reception of Mr. T. E. Ravenshaw, a late Commissioner of the Orissa Division, who has retired from service and who is willing to come to Orissa from England to see his old friends and acquaintances, by whom he is much liked and respected.

UTKALDIPKA.

55. Referring to the transfer of Mr. R. F. Guise, the District Superintendent of Police, from Cuttack to Hazaribagh, the same paper observes that he had so satisfactorily discharged his duties in Cuttack within a short period of one and-a-half year that his transfer was much regretted by a large circle of friends and admirers, who had assembled together at Jobra to bid him adieu.

UTKALDIPKA.

56. The same paper is thankful to Government for having allowed an increase of *malikana* to the zamindars of Orissa in certain cases, but points out that Government should in each case try to find out what loss of income each zamindar is liable to incur under the terms of the new settlement and determine the rate of his *malikana* accordingly, for when Government makes a good profit or does not lose anything, it should see that the zamindars do not lose too much. A thrifty class of landlords is a source of strength to Government, while impecunious landlords and tenants are a source of trouble and anxiety.

UTKALDIPKA.

57. Referring to the notices issued from the Settlement Officer to the zamindars, calling upon them to state whether they are willing to continue the present contract till the new *jama* is enforced and other similar notices, the same paper observes that the notices should have been issued earlier and it should have been made clear in those notices when the new *jama* was going to be enforced and for what period. The writer has reason to believe that a feeling of unrest has been created in the minds of many raiyats, who refuse to pay their rents to their zamindars on the ground that the period of the past settlement is over, and that the new settlement has not been formally proclaimed and enforced.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 20th November 1897.